

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pointing device in a computer system is automatically calibrated by distinguishing between "in presence" and "out of presence" conditions. Calibration correction accommodates differing geometry of users' hands and fingers. Thus, the "natural" "home" position may be different for left-handers or right-handers, or if the device is operated with a thumb versus a forefinger. A system monitors user activity and from that activity automatically selects X-Y values for auto-calibration. "First touch" and "click" activities are used to select proper X-Y values for auto-calibration. "Click from out of presence" is used to determine user selection events for proper calibration. The invention provides "hardware help" for detecting and calibrating a "first touch."